

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for processing animal waste comprising the steps of:
 - 2 (A) heating the animal waste to at least a predetermined temperature; and
 - 3 (B) compressing the animal waste.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein steps (A) and (B) are performed simultaneously
2 by an extrusion process.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is sufficient to kill
2 bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is 132 °C.

- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is 145 °C.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is 160 °C.

- 1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein steps (A) and (B) are performed simultaneously
2 by a screw-type extruder.

- 1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the animal waste comprises poultry waste.

- 1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the animal waste comprises a litter material that
2 contains excrement.

- 1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises organic material.

- 1 11. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises inorganic material.
- 1 12. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises processed material.
- 1 13. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises synthetic material.
- 1 14. A method for a poultry farm to do business comprising the steps of:
 - 2 (A) placing clean litter on the floor of a poultry house;
 - 3 (B) raising a first plurality of birds in the poultry house, during which the birds
 - 4 defecate on the litter, thereby soiling the litter;
 - 5 (C) removing the first plurality of birds from the poultry house;
 - 6 (D) removing the soiled litter from the poultry house;
 - 7 (E) processing the soiled litter by heating the soiled litter to at least a
 - 8 predetermined temperature;
 - 9 (F) placing the processed litter on the floor of at least one poultry house; and
 - 10 (G) raising at least a second plurality of birds in the at least one poultry house.
- 1 15. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.
- 1 16. The method of doing business of claim 15 wherein step (E) comprises the step of
2 running the soiled litter through a screw-type extruder.
- 1 17. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

1 18. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is 132 °C.

1 19. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is 145 °C.

1 20. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is 160 °C.

1. 21. A method for a poultry farm to do business comprising the steps of:
 2. (A) placing processed litter in the bottom of a poultry house, wherein the
 3. processed litter comprises soiled litter that contains excrement and that is processed by
 4. heating the soiled litter to at least a predetermined temperature; and
 5. (B) raising a first plurality of birds in the poultry house, during which the first
 6. plurality of birds defecate on the processed litter.
 1. 22. A method for a poultry farm to do business comprising the steps of:
 2. (A) placing litter in the bottom of a poultry house;
 3. (B) raising a first plurality of birds in the poultry house, during which the first
 4. plurality of birds defecate on the litter;
 5. (C) removing the first plurality of birds from the poultry house;
 6. (D) removing the soiled litter from the poultry house;
 7. (E) processing the soiled litter by heating the soiled litter to at least a
 8. predetermined temperature; and
 9. (F) selling at least a portion of the processed litter.
 1. 23. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the step of processing the
 2. soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.
 1. 24. The method for doing business of claim 23 wherein the steps of heating and
 2. compressing the soiled litter are performed simultaneously by a screw-type extruder.
 1. 25. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
 2. temperature is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

1 26. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 132 °C.

1 27. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 145 °C.

1 28. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 160 °C.

1 29. A method for doing business comprising the steps of:
2 (A) transporting an apparatus that processes soiled litter to a poultry farm; and
3 (B) processing on the poultry farm soiled litter that contains excrement using the
4 apparatus.

1 30. The method for doing business of claim 29 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter comprises the steps of heating the soiled litter to at least a predetermined
3 temperature.

1 31. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.

1 32. The method for doing business of claim 31 wherein the apparatus comprises a
2 screw-type extruder that performs the steps of heating and compressing simultaneously.

1 33. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

1 34. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 132 °C.

1 35. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 145 °C.

1 36. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 160 °C.

- 1 37. A method for doing business comprising the steps of:
2 (A) transporting soiled litter that contains excrement to an apparatus that
3 processes soiled litter; and
4 (B) processing the soiled litter using the apparatus.
- 1 38. The method for doing business of claim 37 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter comprises the steps of heating the soiled litter to at least a predetermined
3 temperature.
- 1 39. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.
- 1 40. The method for doing business of claim 39 wherein the apparatus comprises a
2 screw-type extruder that performs the steps of heating and compressing simultaneously.
- 1 41. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.
- 1 42. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 132 °C.
- 1 43. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 145 °C.
- 1 44. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 160 °C.
